

FLORENCE BURNS SEARCHED FOR FATHER'S PISTOL  
AFTER TELLING MRS. BROOKS SHE'D SHOOT WALTER.BIG SHAKE-UP IN  
IMMIGRATION BUREAU.

Sweeping changes in the personnel of the Immigration Bureau are announced in despatches sent from Washington this afternoon.

The position of Commissioner-General of Immigration has been tendered by the President to Frank P. Sargent, Chief of the Bureau of Locomotive Firemen, to succeed T. V. Powderly, the present incumbent. It is understood that in despatching to relieve Mr. Powderly is because he has not worked in harmony with the higher officials of the Treasury Department, which has resulted in more or less friction.

It also has been determined to relieve Thomas Fitchie, Commissioner at this port, and his assistant, Edward F. McSweeney. The changes, it is said, will take effect April 1, although it is not given out who will succeed the two latter officials.

"This is the first I have heard about the matter," Commissioner Thomas Fitchie said when seen by an Evening World reporter.

"I do not know the President's reasons for his actions, although I presume he has other men he prefers to see fill mine and McSweeney's posts. I have no idea who is to succeed me."

TRACY ILL AFTER  
ATTACKING ODELL.

Gen. Benjamin F. Tracy was stricken with sudden faintness to-day after he had made a vigorous and somewhat sensational attack upon Gov. Odell in the proceedings before Justice Gaynor in the Brooklyn Supreme Court, inaugurated by ex-Sheriff Guden to oust the new appointee, Norman S. Dike.

Gen. Tracy denounced the action of the Governor in advising Dike to use force against Guden as a close approach to anarchy.

The court-room was packed with interested politicians when the case was called. Guden and Dike were present with their lawyers half an hour before the court opened. The adherents of the deposed sheriff crowded about him with condolences and encouragement. Col. Dike did not appear to have many sympathizers in court, but the fact did not worry him.

Gen. Tracy, for Dike, opened the argument. He said the question to be argued was one of the greatest constitutional questions that had ever been presented to a court in this State.

"It involves," he said, "no less a question than whether the executive power of the Governor is restrained by a written constitution or his power is absolute dictation. If the proceeding of the Governor be maintained in this case every public officer in the State holds his office, not by the will of the people, but by the grace and favor of the Governor, the man who has absolute control over even the Mayor of this great city."

Gen. Tracy read from the constitution of the State to support his contention that the Governor had no right to remove an official on charges or allegations of misconduct happening before that official took his oath of office. He argued that the Governor could only take cognizance of misdeeds committed during the official term of the accused person, and that no such charges had been made against Sheriff Guden or had been heard by the Governor.

"I am confident," said Gen. Tracy, "that your Honor will meet this question in a way to admonish the Governor that he is not above the law, and remind him that when he directs the use of force, such as we saw an example of here yesterday, he comes dangerously near anarchy and the destruction of very institutions under which we live."

Judge Hasbrouck, of the Court of Claims, representing the Attorney-General, replied to the argument of Gen. Tracy. The Judge was vigorous in his attack upon the language used by Gen. Tracy in describing the action of the Governor. This appeared to affect Gen. Tracy, who whispered to Jerry Wernberg, associate counsel for Guden. Mr. Wernberg then announced to the Court that the General had been suddenly stricken with faintness.

He was assisted to the private chambers of Justice Gaynor, where he said that his illness was merely a sudden faintness brought on by the exertion of his long argument. He went home in a coach.

Both sides submitted briefs, and decision was reserved. Arguments were then heard in habeas corpus proceedings to test the right of Guden to arrest prisoners previously taken into custody by Dike.

PRETTY GIRLS PRAY  
HARD FOR HUSBANDS.

The large attendance and fervid devotion of young women at the regular Lenten services in St. Joseph's Church, Hoboken, has been a source of satisfaction to Father McEvoy, the pastor, for a week. He found out the reason for it to-day. The young women of his parish are making a novena for husbands.

No church in the city numbers among its worshippers a more attractive lot of maidens than does St. Joseph's. Nevertheless, the percentage of marriages for the past two years has been very small. This fact has been the subject of frequent discussions among the young women, and out of one of the discussions a short time ago grew the suggestion that concentrated and persistent prayer might remedy the situation.

The idea was taken up with enthusiasm and spread until it embraced about all the eligible young women in the parish. It was finally agreed that the matrimonially inclined should go through a regular system of prayer for nine days, beginning last Monday.

Father McEvoy, when seen by an Evening World reporter to-day, admitted that the novena was a fact. He said it had been begun without his knowledge, but that he had learned of it and it had his sanction.

"At least," he said, "it can do no harm. It is true that we are having few marriages and nothing is more reasonable than to assume that prayer will help to promote entrance into one of the sacraments."

OFFICIALS LOSE  
HEADS FOR FRAUDS.

As an outcome of the disclosure of extensive meter frauds Edward J. McGaffney, general inspector of water meters, has been dismissed on charges by Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity J. Hampton Dougherty.

There was a hearing on the charges, but the details have not been made public.

It was no charged that McGaffney had anything to do with the frauds, but that he failed to discover them in the ten years he was chief inspector.

Several dismissals and suspensions of Brooklyn meter inspectors have been made. These were men who got small salaries. McGaffney was paid \$1,500 a year.

Commissioner Dougherty has often stated that there was collusion among the inspectors in the meter frauds.

Meters were found that had been set back frequently, making it possible to rob the city of hundreds, even thousands of dollars.

Meter covers supposed to be screwed down into place and the screw heads covered with wax and officially sealed, were found to contain no screws at all, although the seals were in place and stamped.

LAURILIGHTER WINS  
THE SECOND RACE.BRAW LAD TAKES THE FIRST  
EVENT FROM PENZANCE.

Derby Feature of Last Day of Crescent City Jockey Club Meeting—Field Poor.

(Continued on Third Page.)

RACE TRACK, NEW ORLEANS, March 15.—Racing at the Crescent City track closed for the season to-day and of course the time honored Crescent City Derby for three-year-olds, \$2,500 added, at one mile and a furlong, was the leading attraction. The starters were the poorest lot that ever faced the flag for this big event. Seventeen were left eligible at the final declaration, but the rain of yesterday spoiled the track and only eight were left on the programme to run.

Six of the starters in the race on form did not appear to have much chance of winning, and it was regarded as a two-horse affair between Kaffir and Lord Quex.

**FIRST RACE.**

Six furlongs. Starters, whts., jocks. St. Half-Pin. Betting.

Braw Lad, 112, John 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Lord Quex, 108, Helen 4 3/4 5 5

Tenderfoot, 109, Landry 5 1/4 5 1/4 5

Palmer, 107, Walsh 6 1/4 6 1/4 5

Money Back, 107, Lane 8 1/4 8 1/4 5

Aaron, 107, Oels 8 1/4 8 1/4 5

Beggar Lady, 106, Hayden 8 1/4 8 1/4 5

Brightie B, 106, Hotch 10 1/4 10 1/4 5

Jim W, 112, Slack 9 1/4 11 1/4 5

Terrence, 107, Davis 12 1/4 12 1/4 5

Start Bad. Won galloping. Time—1:18.

Second Race—Five furlongs.—Won by Laurilighter. Little Giant was second, and Honda third.

Third Race—Two miles and seventy yards.—Won by Jerry Hunt. Banish was second, and Chickadee third.

YANKEE JOCKEYS  
WIN IN FRANCE.TAKE EIGHT PLACES FIRST  
DAY OF SEASON.

Five American Boys Made in Six Races at St. Cloud Meeting.

PARIS, March 15.—The flat-racing season in France opened with the St. Cloud meeting to-day. Five American jockeys, J. Reiff, Rigby, McIntyre, Buchanan and M. Henry, rode and in six races they won two firsts, three seconds and three thirds.

Rigby, on Tumulus, took third place in the opening race, the Prix d'Ouverture. In the next race, the Prix Basteur, Buchanan, on Cuernavaca, was first; Buchanan, on Plagelot, was second, and Reiff on Primatif was third.

The most important race of the day, the Prix de St. Cloud, of 20,000 francs, was won by Henry, on Bard; Reiff, on Marechal, was second.

Buchanan, on Courtoisie, took third place in the Prix de Troenes. All five of the Americans rode in the race for the Prix de Placiers, but they had poor mounts and were not placed.

Henry gained second place in the final race, the Prix de Villars.

## NEW ORLEANS ENTRIES.

(Special to The World.)

RACE TRACK, NEW ORLEANS, March 15.—The entries for Monday's races are as follows:

First Race—Fifteen furlongs. Starters, whts., jocks. St. Half-Pin. Betting.

Travers, 110, Irma 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Blocker, 110, Terrance 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Lecheval, 110, Lion 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Royal, 109, Gracious 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Palmer, 110, Mager Lady 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Second Race—Fifteen furlongs. Starters, whts., jocks. St. Half-Pin. Betting.

Chickadee, 110, Paul Bart 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

EA Flanagan, 106, Hard Heart 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Lecheval, 110, Lion 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

The Way, 109, Kentucky Middle 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Ben Fiddler, 104, Waverley 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Third Race—Fifteen furlongs. Starters, whts., jocks. St. Half-Pin. Betting.

Avator, 108, Jim Noy 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Blocker, 110, Terrance 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

EA Flanagan, 106, Hard Heart 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Lecheval, 110, Lion 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

The Way, 109, Kentucky Middle 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Ben Fiddler, 104, Waverley 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Fourth Race—Fifteen furlongs. Starters, whts., jocks. St. Half-Pin. Betting.

EA Flanagan, 106, Hard Heart 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Lecheval, 110, Lion 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

The Way, 109, Kentucky Middle 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Ben Fiddler, 104, Waverley 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Fifth Race—Fifteen furlongs. Starters, whts., jocks. St. Half-Pin. Betting.

EA Flanagan, 106, Hard Heart 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Lecheval, 110, Lion 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

The Way, 109, Kentucky Middle 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Ben Fiddler, 104, Waverley 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Sixth Race—Fifteen furlongs. Starters, whts., jocks. St. Half-Pin. Betting.

EA Flanagan, 106, Hard Heart 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Lecheval, 110, Lion 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

The Way, 109, Kentucky Middle 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

Ben Fiddler, 104, Waverley 1 1/4 1 1/4 3/4 3/4

VERY LATEST NEWS  
IN BRIEFEST FORM.

## BURNS GIRL CASE GOES OVER UNTIL TUESDAY.

The hearing in the Florence Burns case was adjourned until Tuesday morning after Detective-Sergeant Colby had testified to the arrest of the girl. She told him she had left Brooks at his office at 7 o'clock P. M. He asked her if she had heard Brooks had been shot and she wanted to know whether the pistol was found. She said she knew she was suspected.

## NOVEL FORM OF MARRIAGE CEREMONY.

The exact language used by Rev. J. G. Mason, who married Margaret Herron and Dr. Berghall, at Metuchen, N. J., to-day was: "We are here to recognize and to solemnize the union of these two lives. We know that the union is not dependent for perpetuity and blessing on any ceremony, but only on God and the love of these two hearts. Inasmuch, therefore, as these hearts have been united in reciprocal love and have taken each other as husband and wife, I hereby according to the laws of this State and in the name of God announce them to be husband and wife, and what God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

Rev. Mason is a Presbyterian. No wedding ring was used.

## LORD QUEX WINS CRESCENT CITY DERBY.

Fourth Race—Lord Quex 1. Vassal Danue 2. Prowl 3. Fifth Race—Digley Bell 1. Ida Ledford 2. Jessie Jarboe 3.

## PLACE OF BIG FIGHT TO BE DECIDED TO-MORROW.

The opening of the bids in San Francisco for the prize-fight between Jeffries and Fitzsimmons, which was to have occurred this morning, was postponed until some time to-night owing to the delay of the representatives of both fighters in arriving here.

The fighters will decide between themselves to-morrow night which bid they will accept. The agreement will be made over a long-distance wire.

## ERNE TO FIGHT AT CORONATION CARNIVAL.

Representatives of the National Sporting Club of London this afternoon arranged two more important fights for the coronation carnival. Frank Erne, of Buffalo, will meet Pat Daly, the English lightweight champion, and Harry Harris, of Chicago, will meet Harry Takell, the English feather-weight champion. The purses will be \$5,000 each.

## GEN. TRACY IS RECOVERING.

It was reported late this afternoon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, where Gen. B. F. Tracy lives, that he was recovering from the illness which had overcome him during the argument on the Sheriff Guden case before Justice Gaynor earlier to-day.

## WIRELESS TELEGRAPH COMPANY FORMING.

E. Rollins Morse & Brother announced to-day that they were in charge of the financing of a company to promote the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy in this country. It is proposed to incorporate this company in New Jersey with a capital of \$10,000,000. Mr. Morse said it was to operate on purely commercial lines, the principal income being expected from the installation of wireless telegraph plants on steamers and from tolls received for transmitting messages.

## BROOKLYN TO HAVE \$500,000 THEATRE.

A theatre to eclipse all others there is to be built in Brooklyn. Land has been purchased at the junction of Fulton and Lawrence streets, and more than one-third of the needed \$500,000 has already been subscribed.

A syndicate of prominent citizens is backing the plan. Thomas F. Rochford will be the lessee.

## CHARGED WITH FORGING EXPRESS ORDERS.

Charles R. Sherman, of the American Express Company, appeared to-day in the Centre Street Police Court against "Mike" Schoenfeld, of Chicago, whom he charged with forging a number of express money orders, valued at \$48 each. Schoenfeld was held in \$1,000 each.

## TAILOR STADLER A BANKRUPT.

A. Lincoln Stadler, a tailor, of No. 535 Fifth avenue, filed to-day a petition in bankruptcy. His liabilities are \$21,012, with no assets. Forty-one creditors are named, among them Jessie Michaels, of No. 30 West Twenty-third street, \$1,354, "money loaned."

## IT'S MAPLE-SUGAR TIME.

CHESTER, Vt., March 15.—The maple sugar season has opened much earlier than usual this year. All orchards in the warm localities are now in working order. Farmers predict that more sugar will be made this year than in the past five seasons.

THOUGHT HER  
BABIES STOLEN.NURSE TOOK THEM OUT AND  
DIDN'T RETURN.

Children Were Brought Back by a Little Girl, Who Then Took to Her Heels.

For six hours today two little children of Mrs. Andrew Newman, of No. 215 West Thirty-ninth street, were missing in the custody of a nurse who had been hired by Mrs. Newman this morning. Just when detectives had made up their minds that it was another Marion Clark case, the babies were returned by a little girl. The nurse is still missing.

The girl said her name was Maggie. She was sent out at 9 o'clock with the children, aged four and May, aged two. The children were in a pram and the nurse was to return in an hour.

When she had been gone two hours Mrs. Newman reported the matter to the police of the West Thirty-seventh Street Station. Detectives were assigned to find the children, a general alarm was sent out and the block in which the Newmans live was in a turmoil.

A smart-looking child, wearing a carriage containing the missing babies into Thirty-ninth street from Eighth avenue at 3 o'clock this afternoon. She pushed it about one-third of the way down the block and then abandoned it, running toward Eighth avenue. It is supposed Maggie feared to return after remaining out so long and asked a child she met on the street to take the babies home.

CECIL RHODES IS  
VERY NEAR DEATH.OXYGEN ADMINISTERED BY  
THE PHYSICIANS.

Condition Last Night was Extremely Critical and Patient Grows Weaker.

CAPE TOWN, March 15.—Cecil Rhodes is in a critical condition.

He passed a very bad night. His condition at times was very alarming and the attending physicians had frequent recourse to oxygen.

The patient's continued loss of strength causes great anxiety. The physicians are in constant cable communication with the London heart specialist who attended Mr. Rhodes last year.

## LEFT HER ALONE TOO SOON.

Friends Did Not Expect Alberta Brooks' Illness Would Kill Her.

Alberta Brooks, a stenographer, twenty-five years old, was found dead in bed in a boarding-house at No. 31 West Seventeenth street this morning by a servant.

The young woman had been ill from heart trouble for several weeks and was attacked again in the night. She called assistance, but was left alone when it was thought she had recovered.

## TO-NIGHT'S EVENTS.

Dinner of the Franklin County Society, Delmonico's.

Dinner of the Real Estate Board of Brokers, Hotel Savoy.

Reunion of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, St. Denis Hotel.

Stereopticon lecture, Broome Street Tabernacle.

Shakespeare Club, Carnegie Building.

People's Institute lecture, Cooper Union.

New York Wellesley Club, No. 34 East Fifty-seventh street.

Cooper Union Chemical Society, Cooper Union.

Criterion Club hall, Lexington Assembly Rooms.

Mainzer Carneval Verein, hall, Lexington Opera-House.

## WEATHER FORECAST.

Forecast for the thirty-six hours ending at 8 P. M. Sunday, for New York City and vicinity: Cloudy, followed by rain to-night; Sunday rain, increasing easterly winds.

Startling Revelations by Dead  
Man's Mother, Who Fainted on  
Witness Stand, but Recovered.Accused Girl Heard Her Charges Calmly and  
Seemed Unmoved When Mrs. Brooks Identified Comb—Mob of Women in Court.

In a most dramatic way, Mrs. Thomas Brooks, mother of Walter, at the hearing before Justice Mayer to-day, testified that Florence Burns threatened to kill her son.

The ordeal was so great that Mrs. Brooks fainted on the witness-stand and had to be carried from the court-room. When she revived, Mrs. Brooks returned to the witness-stand. She identified the comb found in the room where Walter Brooks died as one belonging to Florence Burns, but this identification was somewhat weakened under cross-examination by Lawyer Backus.

William Ayre testified that he heard Florence Burns threaten Brooks in a theatre.

While this testimony was being given the accused girl displayed the calmness she has shown ever since her arrest.

Women stormed the court and pushed their way in at both morning and afternoon sessions.

Mrs. Brooks was greatly agitated when first called and was assisted to the witness chair by the woman friend who brought her into court. Throwing back her veil, she took the oath and turned to answer Mr. Schurman's questions.

"Do you know Florence Burns?" was the first question.

"I do, to my sorrow."

"When did you first see her?"

"In October, 1901."

"Did you have a conversation with her in your home in October?"

"Yes, sir, in my bedroom. She stood at the foot of the bed and said: 'My father says Mr. Brooks is a criminal, because he would not let your son marry me.'"

"Did she see your son on Dec. 12?"

"Yes, she came to the house. Walter was sick in bed. She stood at the foot of the bed and said: 'Walter, what are you going to do?' and my son, who was delirious with pain, said: 'Mother, if I left you for a month I would die of a broken heart.' I said to her: 'Why don't you stop hounding my son and go back to your mother?' She said: 'If he does not marry me I'll kill him. My mother and I are both good shots and we will kill him.' I answered: 'If you kill my son I'll kill you.' I told her that she was a 'kid,' and he's nothing but a child."

"Mr. Brooks then told her that she would have to leave the house. She went away, but at 11 o'clock that night she came to the house and asked if she could stay all night. I took her up to the spare room. She asked if she could lay her hairpins and combs on the dresser in my front room. I told her that she could not, that he was asleep and must not be disturbed."

## The Comb Identified.

"When did Miss Burns first come to your house to live?"

"Nov. 21. She left on Dec. 13, but she was not there continuously."

"Did she tell you why she came to your house?"

"She did not."

"Did you have an opportunity to see how many combs she wore?"

"Yes; she had three combs."

"Where did you see them?"

"On the dresser when she was sick."

Mr. Schurman showed the witness a comb which the prosecution alleges was found in the room where Brooks was found.

"Did you ever see that comb before?" he asked.

"Yes, sir; she came into my room and showed me this comb. She said: 'Mrs. Brooks, see what I've done? I took a pin and made these holes in the comb to fasten the silver trimmings on the top, and now it is coming off. I can't do anything,' she went on; 'my people will not give me anything.'"

The witness then identified two other combs which she said belonged to Miss Burns.

Mrs. Brooks said Florence wore the comb across the top of her head at the back. The other two, being plain, were worn at the side.

The witness testified that Mrs. Burns came to her house the Tuesday after Nov. 21, the day Florence first went to the Brooks house. She heard Mrs. Burns and Florence talking. Florence said: "I will not go home, mamma, papa horsewhipped me six months ago."

Mr. Backus objected to this and it was stricken out. Mr. Schurman said he had no intention of bringing that out.

He didn't want it. He was after something else. Mr. Schurman asked her again to say what else was said. She said:

## Says Hair Was Pulled Out.

"My papa pulled a handful of hair out of my head and out of my sister's head. You know mamma you never gave me anything." The mother said: "I cannot afford it."

On Dec. 8, Mrs. Brooks said, her son and Florence were in the parlor. She was in the basement. She heard Florence ask her son to marry her. My son said: "If we get married, where are we going to live? I will not leave my mother and father." She said to him: "You are wedded to your mother and father."

"Have you had talks with her about marrying your son?"

"Yes, sir, I told her she knew he could not marry her, and she always said if he didn't she would kill him with her father's pistol."

## Paints on the Stand.

While giving this testimony Mrs. Brooks was under a terrible strain. Her lips would tremble and tighten as she answered the prosecutor's questions, and when her eyes fell on the cold face of the alleged murderer she would shiver and turn away.

When Mr. Schurman took from the pile of exhibits on the table a watch which she had given to her son, she handed it to him.

"Do you recognize this watch?" he asked her, and he handed it to her.

"I do," she said; "it is my son's." Taking it in her hand she kept it and then covering her face she began to weep and sob. In another moment she fell back unconscious.

There was great excitement in the court-room. Hysterical exclamations came from the women in the audience, and for the moment Mr. Schurman and Mr. Backus seemed at a loss what to do. Just as Mrs. Brooks was being removed, he called out:

MILLION  
at auction.